

October 25, 2020 21st Sunday after Pentecost (on-line worship service)

## WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND PASTORAL GREETING

### VIRTUAL PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

### PRELUDE

*“Adagio from Sonata I”*

Felix Mendelssohn

### RINGING OF THE BELL

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Psalm 1)

Declan McLaughlin

Let us delight in God!

**Let us meditate on his Word.**

May God's Word renew and refresh us.

**May our lives be as fruitful as well-watered trees.**

### HYMN

*“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

#14

Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

Text: Folliott Sandford Pierpoint, 1864, alt.

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (based on Psalm 1)

Declan McLaughlin

**Lord God, we confess that though our deepest desire is to delight in You, we too often follow in the footsteps of those who scoff at your Word and we meditate on your way for us too little. Save us from the judgment of the wicked who spurn your love; renew us instead by the power of your living Spirit, for the sake of Christ's kingdom. Amen.**

### ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

“If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.” (1 John 1:9, TNIV)

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

***“O Rest in the Lord, from Elijah”***  
Donald Wertman, soloist

Felix Mendelssohn

***O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,  
and He shall give thee thy heart's desires;  
Commit thy way unto Him, and trust in Him;  
and fret not thyself because of evil doers.  
O rest in the Lord, wait patiently for Him,  
and He shall give thee thy heart's desires;  
O rest in the Lord, and wait patiently for Him.***

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Margie Fishback

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; Through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS****Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (excerpts)**

Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, . . . and the Lord showed him . . . all the land of Judah. . . . The Lord said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the Lord, died there in the land of Moab. . . . Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses was ended. . . .

Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. He was unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

**1 Thessalonians 2:4-8**

[Paul, writing to the Thessalonian church, says,] We speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

**Matthew 22:34-40**

When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” he said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment.

And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

## **RESPONSE**

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Thanks be to God.  
(Deut. 6:6)

## **SERMON**

"Love With Grit"

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **HYMN**

**"God of Our Life"**

#686

Music: Charles Henry Purday, 1860; harm. John Weaver, 1986

*Music: harm © 1990 Hope Publishing*

Text: Hugh Thomson Kerr, 1916, alt.

***God of our life, through all the circling years, we trust in thee.  
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.  
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,  
We own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.***

***God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us abide.  
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land. Be thou our guide.  
With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,  
and faith's fair vision changes into sight.***

***God of the coming years, through paths unknown we follow thee.  
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone. Our refuge be.  
Be thou for us in life our daily bread,  
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.***

## **CHARGE AND BLESSING**

## **POSTLUDE**

**"Andante Mosso in C Major"**

Felix Mendelssohn